

CPYRGHT

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BELLEFONTAINE,
OHIO
EXAMINER

e. 9,237

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Date: AUG 8 1964

SOVIETS CLAIM U.S. ORCHESTRA MEN SPIES

Newspaper Says CIA Had Four
"Plants" In Goodman Band

MOSCOW — The Soviet government newspaper Izvestia has claimed that four members of the Benny Goodman band which toured the Soviet Union in 1962 were spies.

The newspaper charged the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) "makes use of every chance for sending their representatives into the socialist countries."

After one Goodman concert, a Soviet musician criticized one of the numbers to a member of the band, Izvestia said.

"How can one achieve harmony," Izvestia quoted the American as replying, "when I don't know four of the musicians. They were planted in the orchestra before leaving."

At the same time Izvestia warned Russians who attend foreign exhibitions to be on the lookout for electronic brains which could act as "spies." It said they might pick the brains of Soviet citizens.

Electronic brains are currently being displayed by the United States in a communications exhibit in Leningrad. Recently the British staged a demonstration of computers here.

DAYTON, OHIO
NEWS

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Date: AUG 8 1964

Harmony Grits

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Were there four Central Intelligence agency spies playing in the Benny Goodman band during its 1962 Moscow concert?

That's what the Russian newspaper, Izvestia, claims. It alleges that a Russian musician asked a Goodman band member why a certain number was flat and he replied: "How can one achieve harmony when I don't know four of the musicians? They were planted in the orchestra before leaving."

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SUN

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Date: AUG 11 1964

CPYRGHT

Dig That Off-Key Code!

It has taken the Russians two years to discover a flat note they say was blown by the Benny Goodman jazz band that toured their country to standing-room-only audiences in 1962. The delay in accusing the band of augmenting its personnel with four CIA members apparently was the sourest grape Izvestia could dig up from the bottom of its already overworked propaganda barrel. But, they say, some of the flute-tooters were spying on the jazz scene while hitting a few hot licks for good old capitalism behind the Iron Curtain.

The Russkies were probably incensed because they couldn't pin the label of "Kapitalist" on the musicians. Who has ever heard of rich, Wall Street musicians? It was also possible that Russians were offended by the term "licorice stick"—vernacular in the music world for a clarinet, the instrument that made Goodman famous. Licorice is definitely associated for the comrades with such beverages as anisette, pernod, absinthe, and melaxa, all

While it strikes the funny bone thinking of .007 types peeking over trumpets or around bass fiddles for the CIA, the charge has its seamy side.

It could damage the cultural exchange program between the United States and the Soviet Union.

Since there is little prospect the ultra-secret CIA will set the record straight, Americans must hang on the reassurance given by Muriel Zuckman, Goodman's secretary. He vindicated the American spy organization of such ridiculous sneakery by emphatically denying the Russian charge.

So be it. Hopefully, Izvestia is just picking up where Benny Goodman left off with a lot of jazz of its own.

to vodka by connoisseurs not surrounded by the Wet Curtain.

This isn't the first time communists have attempted to steal the limelight in the music world. Only a few years ago they announced that a Russian zither player had lost the Lost Chord in 1663. They followed this story with the news release that a Bolshevik had found it again in a salt mine in Siberia in 1923.

Rumors have it that the Russians first became suspicious of the band's activities when a bandsman is reported to have said, "Like man, knock off the sludge-pumps while the squeeze-box and doghouse take the bridge; then hit it with all you got on the brass and we'll blow the roof down with a real crazy diminished ninth for these cats." After spending two years trying to decipher the statement without success, the Russians were said to have declared the code was unbreakable, and certainly must have been uttered by no other than a member of the Central Intelligence Agency.